

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A portable viewing/listening system in which program data received by a fixedly or semi-fixedly installed main device is played-back in an easy-to-carry portable device to provide a user therewith,

said main device comprising:

receiving means for receiving program data provided through broadcasting;

primary storing means for storing the program data received by said receiving means;

transfer priority assigning means for assigning transfer priorities to every program component constituting the program data stored in said primary storing means; and

transferring means for discretely, to said portable device, each of the program components of the program data stored in said primary storing means in the direction of a time axis in order of said assigned transfer priorities, and

said portable device comprising:

secondary storing means for storing the program components to be discretely transferred from said transferring means;

re-constructing means for re-constructing program data included in any program desired to play-back from the program components stored in said secondary storing means; and

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playing-back means for playing-back the program data re-constructed by said re-constructing means.

2. The portable viewing/listening system according to Claim 1, wherein said transfer priority assigning means assigns transfer priorities to each of the program components in such a manner that a program component with less amount of data has a higher transfer priority.

3. The portable viewing/listening system according to Claim 2, wherein said main device further comprises transfer priority defining means for previously defining transfer priorities by default to every type of said program components, and

 said transfer priority assigning means assigns, in accordance with a definition provided by said transfer priority defining means, said transfer priorities by default to each of the program components.

4. The portable viewing/listening system according to Claim 3, wherein, when the plurality of program data stored in said primary storing means is collectively transferred to said portable device, said transferring means selects any program component having the same transfer priority from each of the program data, combines the selected program components into a unit,

and then discretely transfers the combined unit in the direction of the time axis in order of the transfer priorities assigned to every combined unit.

5. The portable viewing/listening system according to Claim 4, wherein types of the program components are classified into a plurality of classes by said transfer priority defining means, and

said transfer priority assigning means checks every class for the transfer priorities by default assigned to each of the program components, and then changes, in accordance with a result of the check, the transfer priorities by default assigned to each of the program components on a class basis, as required.

6. The portable viewing/listening system according to Claim 5, wherein, when no program component in the same class has a value defined as being top transfer priority therein, said transfer priority assigning means changes a value of a program component being currently the highest transfer priority in the class to the value defined as being top therein.

7. The portable viewing/listening system according to Claim 1, wherein said main device further comprises program component generating means for generating a new program component from the program components of the program data received by said

receiving means, and

 said storing means adds the program component newly generated by said program component generating means to the program data received by said receiving means, and stores the same.

8. The portable viewing/listening system according to Claim 1, wherein, when any data of the program component of the program data re-constructed by said re-constructing means is discontinued halfway during play-back by said playing-back means, said portable device further comprises replacing means for having any other program component being not currently played-back to play-back as a replacement.

9. The portable viewing/listening system according to Claim 8, wherein said portable device further comprises presentation priority defining means for previously defining presentation priorities to each type of said program components, and

 said replacing means determines a program component to play-back as a replacement in accordance with the definition provided by said presentation priority defining means.

10. The portable viewing/listening system according to Claim 9, wherein types of the program components are classified

into a plurality of classes by said presentation priority defining means, and

said replacing means determines a program component to play-back as a replacement among the program components belonging to the same class as does said program component discontinued during play-back.

11. The portable viewing/listening system according to Claim 1, wherein said main device and said portable device are structured to be electrically interconnectable, and

said transferring means online-transfers each program component of the program data stored in said primary storing means directly to said portable device.

12. The portable viewing/listening system according to Claim 11, wherein said main device further comprises:

attaching means for allowing said portable device to be electrically connected; and

charging means for supplying power to charge said portable device when the portable device is attached to said attaching means, wherein

said portable device further comprises a battery to be charged by the power supplied from said charging.

13. The portable viewing/listening system according to

Claim 1, wherein said transferring means offline-transfers each program component of the program data stored in said primary storing means to said portable device through a recording medium.

14. The portable viewing/listening system according to Claim 13, wherein said main device further comprises writing means for writing any program component to be transferred to said portable device into said recording medium, and

said portable device further comprises reading means for reading the program component recorded in said recording medium.

15. The portable viewing/listening system according to Claim 1, wherein said receiving means receives program data through a computer network.

16. A main device used in a state of fixedly or semi-fixedly installed, and used to transfer any received program data to an easy-to-carry portable device, the main device comprising:

receiving means for receiving program data provided through broadcasting;

primary storing means for storing the program data received by said receiving means;

transfer priority assigning means for assigning transfer priorities to each program component constituting the program data stored in said primary storing means; and

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transferring means for discretely, to said portable device, each of the program components of the program data stored in said primary storing means in the direction of a time axis in order of said assigned transfer priorities.

17. The main device according to Claim 16, wherein said transfer priority assigning means assigns transfer priorities to each program component in such a manner that a program component with less amount of data has a higher transfer priority.

18. The main device according to Claim 17, further comprising transfer priority defining means for previously defining transfer priorities by default to every type of said program components, and

said transfer priority assigning means assigns said transfer priorities by default to each of the program components in accordance with a definition provided by said transfer priority defining means.

19. The main device according to Claim 18, wherein, when the plurality of program data stored in said primary storing means is collectively transferred to said portable device, said transferring means selects any program component having the same transfer priority from each of the program data, combines the selected program components into a unit, then discretely

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transfers the combined unit in the direction of the time axis in order of the transfer priorities assigned to every combined unit..

20. The main device according to Claim 19, wherein types of the program components are classified into a plurality of classes by said transfer priority defining means, and

said transfer priority assigning means checks every class for the transfer priorities by default assigned to each of the program components, and then changes, in accordance with a result of the check, the transfer priorities by default assigned to each of the program components on a class basis, as required.

21. The main device according to Claim 20, wherein, when no program component in the same class has a value defined as being top transfer priority therein, said transfer priority assigning means changes a value of a program component being currently the highest transfer priority in the class to the value defined as being top therein.

22. The main device according to Claim 16, further comprising program component generating means for generating a new program component from the program components of the program data received by said receiving means, wherein

said storing means adds the program component newly generated by said program component generating means to the

program data received by said receiving means, and stores the same.

~~23.~~ A portable device for receiving and playing-back program data received by a fixedly or semi-fixedly installed main device to provide a user therewith, the portable device comprising:

secondary storing means for storing each program component of the program data to be discretely transferred from said main device;

re-constructing means for re-constructing program data of a program desired to play-back from the program components stored in said secondary storing means; and

playing-back means for playing-back the program data re-constructed by said re-constructing means.

24. The portable device according to Claim 23, wherein, when data of the program component of the program data reconstructed by said re-constructing means is discontinued halfway during play-back by said playing-back means, the portable device further comprises replacing means for having any other program component being not currently played-back to play-back as a replacement.

25. The portable device according to Claim 24, further

comprising presentation priority defining means for previously defining presentation priorities to each type of said program components, and

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said replacing means determines a program component to play-back as a replacement in accordance with a definition provided by said presentation priority defining means.

26. The portable device according to Claim 25, wherein types of the program components are classified into a plurality of classes by said presentation priority defining means, and

said replacing means determines a program component to play-back as a replacement among the program components belonging to the same class as does said program component discontinued during play-back.

27. A method of transferring program data received by a fixedly or semi-fixedly installed main device to an easy-to-carry portable device, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving program data provided through broadcasting;
storing the program data received by said receiving means;
assigning transfer priorities to each program component constituting said stored program data; and.

discretely transferring, to said portable device, each of the program components of said stored program data in the direction of a time axis in order of said assigned transfer

priorities.